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## BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Matter the Appraiser's License of:

Case No. 3899

## ALBERT PAMIROYAN

nnraiser

Certified Residential Appraiser License No. 20691

Respondent.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

In the interest of a prompt and judicious settlement of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions ("Department"), and consistent with public interest, statutory requirements and responsibilities of the Department, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3601 *et seq.* and A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(F)(5), Albert Pamiroyan ("Respondent"), holder of Appraisal License No. 20691, and the Department enter into this Consent Agreement, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order ("Consent Agreement") as the final disposition of this matter.

## **JURISDICTION**

- 1. The Department is the state agency authorized pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3601 et seq., and the rules promulgated thereunder, found in the Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C." or "Rules") at Rules 4-46-101 et seq., to regulate and control the licensing and certification of real estate property appraisers in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent held a license as a Certified Residential Appraiser in the State of Arizona, License No. 20691. The license was issued on December 12, 1994 and expired on December 31, 2016.
- 3. A.R.S. § 32-3631(D) states, "[t]he "lapsing or suspension of a license or certificate by operation of law... shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to do any of the following within twenty-four months after the expiration of the license or certificate pursuant to section 32-3616: 1. Proceed with any investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding against the license or certificate holder. 2. Render a decision suspending or revoking the license or certificate or denying the renewal or right of renewal of the license or certificate."

## CONSENT AGREEMENT

Respondent understands and agrees that:

- 4. The Department has jurisdiction over Respondent and the subject matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3601 et seq.
- 5. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent Agreement.
- 6. Respondent has the right to a hearing concerning this case pursuant to Title 41 of the A.R.S. and Title 4, Chapter 46 of the A.A.C. He further acknowledges that at the hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably waives his right to such a hearing.
- 7. Respondent irrevocably waives any right to rehearing, review, or any other appeal of this matter.
- 8. This Consent Agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Superintendent of the Department and shall be effective only when signed by the Department's Division Manager ("Division Manager"). In the event that the Superintendent does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party. In the event of a future hearing, Respondent waives any claim that the Superintendent was prejudiced in any way by reviewing this matter and choosing to reject this document.
- 9. The Consent Agreement, once approved by the Superintendent and signed by the Division Manager, shall constitute a public record available for inspection.

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

# Complaint #3899

10. On May 20, 2016, the Department received a complaint filed against Respondent for an appraisal (the "Appraisal") he performed on a single family residence located at 9810 E. Winter Sun Drive, Scottsdale, Arizona, 85262 (the "Subject Property"). The Subject Property is a custom home

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in Mirabel Village and was under contract for a purchase price of \$1,010,000.

- 11. The complaint ("Complaint No. 3899") alleged the following:
  - a. Respondent appraised the Subject Property on April 19, 2016 and the lender communicated on April 26, 2016 that the appraised value met the purchase price of \$1,010,000 (the "Original Report").
  - b. On May 5 (one week prior to close of escrow), the complainant and her client were informed that the collateral review department of the lender rejected the Original Report.
  - c. After receiving a list of challenges by the lender, Respondent revised the opinion of value to \$870,000, and included three (3) additional comparable sales that the complainant alleged were under improved, of inferior quality with no site improvements, and not adequately supported (the "Revised Report").
- 12. On May 26, 2016, the Department sent a copy of Complaint No. 3899 to Respondent and requested a written response to Complaint No. 3899 by June 24, 2016. The Department also requested that Respondent provide a copy of the report and work file for the Appraisal.
- 13. On June 16, 2016, Respondent requested a 30-day extension to provide the requested information, which was approved by the Department.
- 14. On July 25, 2016, Respondent informed the Department he would be providing the requested information later on that same day. Respondent made a similar statement on August 1, 2016. Respondent failed to deliver the information on both occasions.
- 15. On November 2, 2016, the Department issued a subpoena (the "Subpoena") ordering Respondent to produce a copy of the report and work file for the Appraisal. Respondent's response to the Subpoena was due on or before November 18, 2016. Respondent failed to respond to the Subpoena within the allotted timeframe.
- 16. On January 12, 2017, the Department filed a Complaint and Notice of Hearing for Revocation of License.

- 17. Respondent requested an informal settlement conference with the Department, which took place on January 26, 2017. At that time, Respondent provided a copy of the report and work file for the Appraisal.
  - 18. The Department reviewed the Appraisal and found the following errors:
    - a. In the Revised Report, Respondent added Comparable No. 7, Comparable No. 8 and Comparable No. 9 into the sales comparison approach grid without adequate discussion, analysis or support.
      - i. In response to the lender's first reconsideration request, Respondent originally rejected Comparable Nos. 7 and 8 due to those being new home builder sales. There is no discussion, analysis or support of why Respondent changed his mind to add Comparable Nos. 7 and 8 after receiving a second reconsideration request from the lender when the Subject Property is seven years old.
      - ii. The new home builder sales added as Comparable Nos. 7 and 8 were constructed by Taylor Morrison, a tract home builder. The Subject Property was constructed by Amberwood Homes, a custom home builder. The Subject Property has very high-end finishes that are superior to tract home upgrades. There is no discussion, support or analysis of condition or quality adjustments.
      - iii. The new home builder sales added as Comparable Nos. 7 and 8 have no landscaping. Respondent states in his report that "no landscape adjustments were made as there was an insufficient amount of market data to effectively analyze this amenity/feature." There is not adequate support to conclude that full landscaping on a one-acre custom home site has no contributory value.
      - iv. Comparable No. 9 is located in the Sierra Norte development, while the Subject Property is located in Mirabel Village. The median selling price per square foot in Sierra Norte is nearly twenty percent lower than the median prices in Mirabel Village.

- b. There is no analysis of the sales contract. Respondent did not explain why his initial valuation in the Original Report supported the contract purchase price while the Revised Report came in with a value significantly lower than the contract purchase price.
- c. All of the commentary in the Original Report supporting Respondent's initial value opinion is still in the Revised Report and contradicts the changes made.
- d. Respondent's Scope of Work states the "appraiser must, at a minimum...inspect each of the comparable sales from at least the street." In direct contradiction, Respondent used photos for Comparable Nos. 7, 8 and 9 that were taken from MLS because he performed the revision request from a remote location.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 19. The Department has personal and subject matter jurisdiction in this case under A.R.S. § 32-3601 et seq., and is authorized to seek disciplinary action against any licensed or certified real property appraiser in the State of Arizona for violations of the Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S." or "Statutes"), Rules or the standards of practice adopted by the Department.
- 20. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-3635, a certified or licensed appraiser in the State of Arizona must comply with the standards of practice adopted by the Department. The standards of practice adopted by the Department are codified in the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice ("USPAP") edition applicable at the time of the appraisal.
- 21. The conduct described above constitutes violations of the following provisions of the USPAP, 2016-2017 edition, and Statutes:

Standards of Professional Practice: Scope of Work Rule; SR 1-1(a)(b)(c); SR 1-4(a); SR 1-5(a); SR 2-1(a)(b); SR 2-2(a)(viii); A.R.S. § 32-3631(A)(8); and A.R.S. §§ 32-3635(A)(B).

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## <u>ORDER</u>

- 22. The Department considers this to be a disciplinary action and these violations to constitute a Level III<sup>1</sup> (out of five): "[V]iolations that rise to the level of affecting the credibility of an assignment."
- 23. Respondent must undertake twenty-two (22) hours of corrective education consisting of a 15-hour USPAP class with exam and a 7-hour class on Scope of Work. These two courses will not count toward the continuing education requirements of the Respondent and must be completed within six (6) months of the Effective Date (as defined below) of this Consent Agreement.
- 24. The Department places Respondent's license as a Certified Residential Appraiser on probation for a minimum period of six (6) months. The term of this probation shall commence on the day the Division Manager, on behalf of the Superintendent, signs this Consent Agreement into effect (the "Effective Date").
- 25. Respondent shall comply with all USPAP, Department Statutes and Rules during this period of probation and in performing all appraisals.
- 26. Respondent shall: (a) demonstrate resolution of the problems that resulted in this disciplinary action; and (b) otherwise comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement.
- 27. Respondent shall file an appraisal log with the Department on a monthly basis listing every Arizona appraisal that he has completed within the prior calendar month by property address, appraisal type, valuation date, the date the appraisal was issued, and the number of hours worked on each assignment. Respondent shall file the report log monthly, beginning the first day of the month following the start of Respondent's probationary period and continuing each month thereafter until the Department terminates the probation. If the log reporting date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the report log is due on the next business day. Respondent must still file an appraisal log with the Department even if Respondent performs no appraisals within a given month. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Using the "Voluntary Disciplinary Action Matrix" developed by the Appraisal Foundation.

- 28. The Department reserves the right to audit any of Respondent's reports during the probationary period. The Department may seek separate disciplinary action against the Respondent for any violation of USPAP, Department Statutes or Rules discovered in an audit of the Respondent's appraisal reports provided under the terms of this Consent Agreement.
- 29. Respondent's probation shall continue until: (a) Respondent requests in writing that the Department terminates his probation and (b) the Department terminates the probation. Upon petition by the Respondent for termination of probation, the Department will select and audit three (3) of Respondent's appraisal reports for purposes of determining whether Respondent has demonstrated resolution of the problems that resulted in this disciplinary action and overall USPAP compliance.
- 30. If the Department determines, after auditing the three (3) reports mentioned in the preceding paragraph, that Respondent has not complied with all the requirements of this Consent Agreement, the Department, at its sole discretion, may continue the probation or institute proceedings for noncompliance with this Consent Agreement, which may result in suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary and/or remedial action. If the Department determines that Respondent has complied with all of the requirements of this Consent Agreement, the Department will terminate the probation.
- 31. Respondent shall not act as a supervising appraiser for other appraisers or trainees, nor shall Respondent act as a mentor, during the term of the probation.
- 32. Respondent shall not teach any course related to real estate appraisals during the term of the probation.
- 33. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement as set forth herein, and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney. Respondent voluntarily enters into this Consent Agreement for the purpose of avoiding the expense and uncertainty of an administrative

hearing.

- 34. Respondent understands that he has a right to an administrative hearing concerning each and every allegation set forth in the above-captioned matter, at which administrative hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly, willfully and voluntarily relinquishes all rights to such an administrative hearing, as well as all rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters set forth herein. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.
- 35. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement, or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against him.
- 36. The parties agree that this Consent Agreement constitutes final resolution of this disciplinary matter.
- 37. If Respondent fails to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement, the Department at its sole discretion may continue the probation or institute proceedings for noncompliance with this Consent Agreement, which may result in suspension, revocation, or other disciplinary and/or remedial actions. Respondent agrees that any violation of this Consent Agreement is a violation of A.R.S. § 32-3631(A)(8), which is willfully disregarding or violating any of the provisions of the Statutes or the Rules regulating the professional appraisal practice.
- 38. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Department, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Department's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding. Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency subdivision or officer of this state from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.
  - 39. Respondent understands that the foregoing Consent Agreement shall not become

1	effective unless and until adopted by the Division Manager and executed on behalf of the
2	Superintendent. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually
3	approved by the parties in writing.
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5	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 21st day of Tebruary, 2017.
6	Robert D. Charlton Superintendent of Financial Institutions
7	Superintendent of 1 manetal institutions
8	By:
9	Ron Doba, Division Manager Financial Services
10	Department of Financial Institutions
11	DATED this 17th day of February 2017.
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13	By: ( ) lest his ,
14	Albert Pamiroyan
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1	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this 2/5+ day of February, 2017,
2	in the office of:
3	Robert D. Charlton, Superintendent
4	Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
	ATTN: June Beckwith 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310
5	Phoenix, AZ 85018
6	JBeckwith@azag.gov
7	COPY of the foregoing mailed and/or emailed same date to:
8	Ron Doba, Financial Services Division Manager
	Arizona Department of Financial Institutions ATTN: Linda Lutz
9	2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310
10	Phoenix, AZ 85018
	LLutz@azdfi.gov
11	Debra Rudd
12	Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
12	ATTN: Kelly Luteijn, Regulatory Compliance Officer
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